

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN SS-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112039

TOSEC 16

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE IMMEDIATE INFO ANKARA ATHENS
BONN COPENHAGEN DUBLIN LISBON LONDON LUXEMBOURG OSLO OTTAWA
PARIS REYKJAVIK ROME THE HAGUE NATO EC BRUSSELS JUNE 8 FROM
BRUSSELS REPEAED FOR YOU:

QUOTE

RUSSELS 3176

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, US

SUB: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING JUNE 5.

1. POLITICAL DIRECTOR DAVIGNON REPORTED TO ME ON THE
JUNE 5 POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS AMONG EC FOREIGN MINISTERS
IN TERMS COMPLETELY CONSISTENT WITH BRUSSELS 3120 AND
REPORTS RECEIVED FROM OTHER CAPITALS AND USEC. IN SHORT,
VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE DAY HAD SEEN A SHARP CONFRONTATION
BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE OTHERS ON THE QUESTION OF U. S. - EC
OR U. S. - EUROPEAN RELATIONS.

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2. THE STATED FRENCH REASONS FOR BLOCKING ANY MOVEMENT WERE TWO: A) THE NINE AS A GROUP ARE NOT COMPETENT OR PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THE U. S.; B) U. S. PROPOSALS ARE STILL UNCLEAR AND U. S. MOTIVES ARE SUSPECT.

3. JOBERT SAID FLATLY THAT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE U. S. AND INDIVIDUAL EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WERE AN ENTIRELY SUFFICIENT MEANS OF DEALING WITH EXISTING PROBLEMS AND ISSUES, AND HE NOTED BY WAY OF EXAMPLE THAT HE WOULD BE CONFERRING WITH KISSINGER ON JUNE 7. AT THIS POINT IN HIS BRIEFING, DAVIGNON SAID POINTEDLY THAT THE U. S. QTE MUST BE CAREFUL UNQTE IF BILATERALS INDEED ARE TO BE THE INSTRUMENTS OF THE U. S.- EUROPEAN DIALOGUE. IN THIS CONNECTION HE ASKED WHICH COUNTRIES THE U. S. WOULD SELECT AS IT INTERLOCUTORS. NOTING THAT JOBERT'S DESCRIPTION OF THE NIXON/ POMPIDOU TALKS AT REYKJAVIK DIFFERED CONSIDERABLY FROM THE APPRECIATION HE HAD BEEN GIVEN BY THE EMBASSY (BASED ON STATE 106199), DAVIGNON CAUTIONED THAT BILATERALS SEEM TO HAVE AS MUCH CHANCE OF CREATING CONFUSION AS THEY DO OF BRINGING ABOUT UNDERSTANDING. (HE MENTIONED THE HEATH/ POMPIDOU TALKS IN THE SAME VEIN.)

4. SEEKING FOR POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE JUNE 5 MEETING, DAVIGNON SAID THAT JOBERT HAD SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AUTUMN MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT NIXON AND THE PRESIDENTS OF BOTH THE EC COUNCIL AND THE EC COMMISSION. SECONDLY, HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE FRENCH STOOD ALONE, AND THAT THEY HAD BEEN CHALLENGED REPEATEDLY AND SHARPLY BY VAN ELSLANDE AND EVERY OTHER MINISTER AT THE TABLE. FINALLY, HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO KEEP IN MIND THAT THE NINE DID NOT BEG THE ISSUE OF U. S.- EUROPEAN RELATIONS BUT RATHER CONFRONTED IT AND FOUND THAT FURTHER HARD WORK WILL BE NEEDED.

5. DAVIGNON SADLY REMARKED THAT THE QUESTION OF THE U. S.- EC DIALOGUE HAD OF COURSE COME TO NO GOOD CONCLUSION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SECOND DAVIGNON REPORT SINCE THE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS IN THIS AREA HAD THEMSELVES PRODUCED TOTAL DISAGREEMENT.

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6. COMMENT: DAVIGNON WAS CLEARLY DISCOURAGED BUT NOT RESIGNED TO DEFEAT. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SAY AS MUCH, HIS UNEASINESS ON THE QUESTION OF BILATERALS WAS CERTAINLY OCCASIONED BY CONCERN FOR THE ROLE OF BELGIUM IN PARTICULAR, AND SMALL COUNTRIES GENERALLY, IN COMING

TRANSATLANTIC ACTIVITIES.

STRAUSZ- HUPE

UNQUOTE. RUSH

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